

AMENDMENTS IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please make the following changes to the specification:

On page 20, please correct the paragraph continuing from page 19, with the following correction:

The image data is evaluated when the modifying parameter is determined. In the evaluation of the image data, an object pixel to be evaluated is moved as shown in FIG. 4 so that a predetermined summing process is performed for the image data of the object pixel. More specifically, in the embodiment, a predetermined summation value is obtained by the aforesaid summing process in order that the image quality is grasped as feature amounts of the image such as "contrast, "brightness, "color balance," "saturation" and "sharpness." An operational processing is applied to the summation value to obtain a modifying parameter (step S105). Summation need not be carried out for all the pixels. Actually, the aforesaid feature amounts *cannot* exactly be judged only by the aforesaid feature amounts, and accordingly, the summing process is carried out in order that the tendency of the image quality may be obtained. In the embodiment, accordingly, the image data are sampled to be summed on a predetermined criterion. The sampling can be executed according to a predetermined rule. For example, the pixels may be sampled every other pixel in each of vertical and horizontal directions so that the number of the pixels is reduced to a quarter. FIG. 5 is a flowchart showing the procedure for sampling a quarter of all the object pixels to be processed. A left uppermost pixel is set as the object pixel to be processed at step S300. The object pixel to be processed is moved from the left one to the right one and from the upper one to the lower one. The object pixel to be processed is horizontally moved for every other pixel at step 305 and the image data of the object

pixels to be processed are summed at step S320. In a case where the processing is judged to go beyond the right-hand end at step S310 when the object pixel to be processed is horizontally moved, one row to be processed is skipped over at step S315 and the left-hand end position is set as an object pixel to be processed.

On page 20, please correct the last full paragraph, with the following correction:

After summation, it is judged whether the pixel is a final one at step S325. The above-described processing is repeated until the processed pixel is judged to be a final one. Thus, the object pixels to be processed are summed horizontally for every other pixel and vertically every other pixel, whereupon the number of the object pixels to be processed becomes about a quarter. Of course, the pixels may be sampled for every two pixels in the same manner so that the number of processed pixels becomes a one ninth. A thinning interval need not be equal between the vertical and horizontal directions. Furthermore, sampling need not be performed according to the predetermined rule and may randomly be performed. FIG. 6 is another flowchart showing the procedure for sampling a quarter of pixels to be processed. A left uppermost pixel is set as the object pixel to be processed at step S400. Random numbers are produced in a range of 1 to 4 at step ~~S400~~S405. The summation is performed at step S415 only when the random number produced at step S410 is "1."

On page 21, please correct the first full paragraph with the following corrections:

Since the object pixel to be processed is moved from the left one to the right one and from the upper one to the lower one, the object pixel to be processed is horizontally moved by one at step S420. At step ~~S325~~S425, it is judged whether the processing has gone beyond the right-hand end. When the processing has gone beyond the right-hand end, a row to be processed

is lowered by one at step S430. When one row has been skipped over, the left-hand end position is set as an object pixel to be processed. Consequently, even when the processed pixel to be processed is moved one pixel, thinning is performed at a predetermined probability using the random numbers, whereupon sampling can be performed randomly at a predetermined ratio for summation. After summation, it is judged whether the pixel is a final one at step S435.

On page 32, please correct the paragraph continuing from page 31, with the following corrections:

The modifying parameters of contrast, brightness, color balance, saturation and sharpness are obtained in the predetermined processing at step S105 as described above. The obtained modifying parameters are displayed on the display 17a so as to be recognized by the operator (step S110) as shown in FIG. 12. This screen display 20 is displayed as a window display, and the characters of "modifying parameter" are displayed on the uppermost title column 21 as a caption representative of the displayed contents, and a button 22 is displayed for closing the window display. Characters of "contrast," "brightness," "color balance," "saturation" and "sharpness" representative of image quality to be corrected are vertically arranged in the left in the window. A slide bar 23 is displayed on the right of each image quality. Each slide bar 23 is horizontally moved by the mouse 15b. A location and a slidable width can be obtained on the application 12d. The left and right ends of each slide bar 23 indicate the contents of the sliding operation. In the contrast, saturation and sharpness, the left end indicates "~~weak~~low" and the right end indicates "~~strong~~high." In the brightness, the left end indicates "dark" and the right end indicates "bright." In the color balance, the left end indicates "blue" and the right end indicates "red." The displayed slide bar 23 is a modifying parameter computed through the summation

process for each image quality and corresponds to the value of the modifying parameter at the central position. The slide bar 23 indicates the zero times value at the left end and the twice value at the right end. However, it is only one example and any allocation is possible. For example, a scale may previously be determined.

On page 34, please correct the paragraph continuing from page 33, with the following corrections:

On the other hand, there is a case where the range of 0 to 20 2 times larger than the first parameter P is too broad although there is a possibility of change in the modifying parameter. Since the preference of the operator is reflected, an automatically judged modifying parameter may slightly be adjusted. Accordingly, the range which can be modified by the slide bar maybe limited to $\pm 10\%$ of the modifying parameter. FIG. 13 shows a screen display 30 in this case, and the movement of the slide bar instructs fine adjustment for modification of image quality. The screen display 30 is substantially the same as the screen display 20. A title column 31, button 32, slide bar 33, three command buttons ~~24a to 24c~~34a, 34b and 34c are displayed. The characters "fine adjustment of modifying parameter" are displayed as a caption of the uppermost title column 31. Furthermore, a slide bar 33 displayed here gives an instruction to fine-adjust each modifying parameter and corresponds, at the central position, to the state where the modifying parameter is not modified, and indicates the values of 10% decrease at the left end and 10% increase at the right end. However, this is only one example, and ranges of increase and decrease may be allocated optionally.